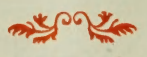
Pam. Misc. 1659

THE INAUGURAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

TORONTO

JUNE TENTH : MCMXXV

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

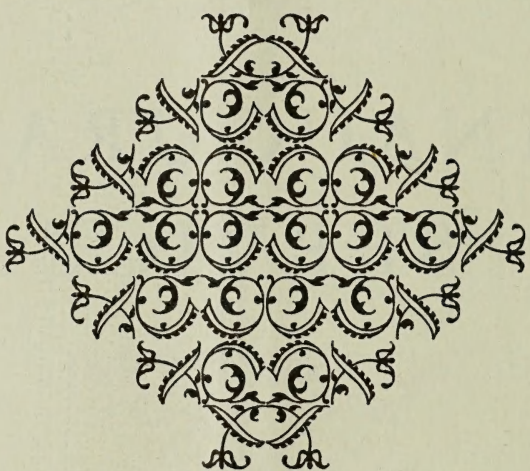


INAUGURAL SERVICE

TORONTO

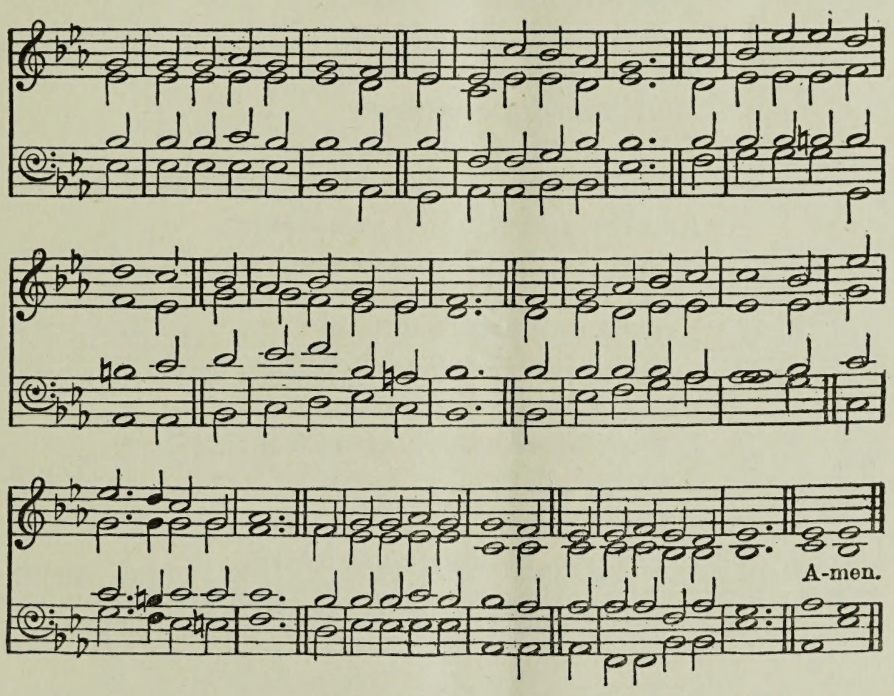
WEDNESDAY JUNE TENTH

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE



THREE streams of Delegates of the three uniting Churches, meeting at the entrance to the place of worship, mingle in a procession to their appointed seats, singing with the congregation assembled the

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



TUNE—*Aurelia.*

THE Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word:
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth,
One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee. *Amen.*

S. J. Stone.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

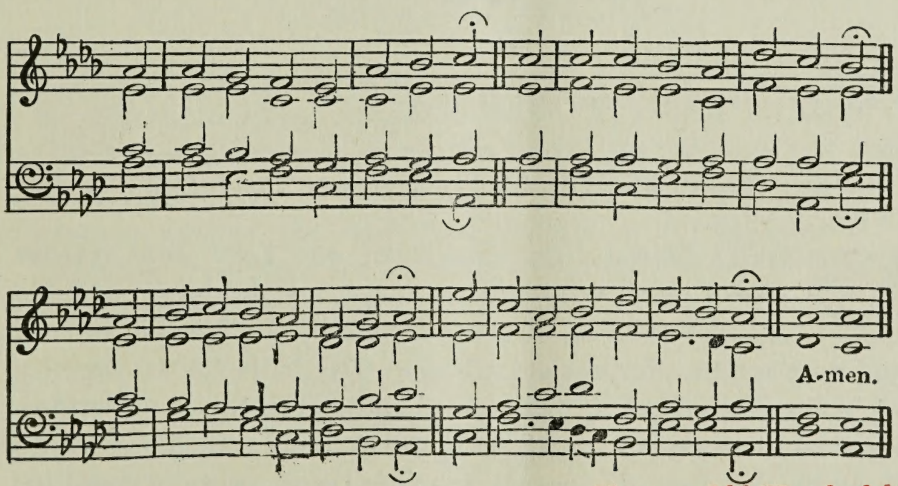
The Service proceeds without announcement, "Amen" to be said by all.

I

Minister: O Lord, open Thou our lips,

All: And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

PSALM 100.



TUNE—*Old Hundredth.*

ALL people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His folk, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise,
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why, the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure. *Amen.*

William Kethe, in Scottish Psalter, 1650.

PRAYERS (all reverently bowing down):—

INVOCATION *(by Minister appointed)*

O GOD Eternal, the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whose Name is great and whose goodness is inexhaustible, who art adored by the hosts of heaven and dost accept offerings sanctified by Thy Holy Spirit: sanctify us, we beseech Thee, in body, soul and spirit; touch our understandings, search our consciences, and cast out every unbecoming thought and base desire, all falsehood and vainglory and indifference, every motion of the flesh and spirit not in accordance with Thy holy will. And grant us, O Lord, with freedom, with a pure heart and contrite soul, without confusion of face, and with sanctified lips, boldly to call on Thee, our holy God and Father in heaven. *Amen.*

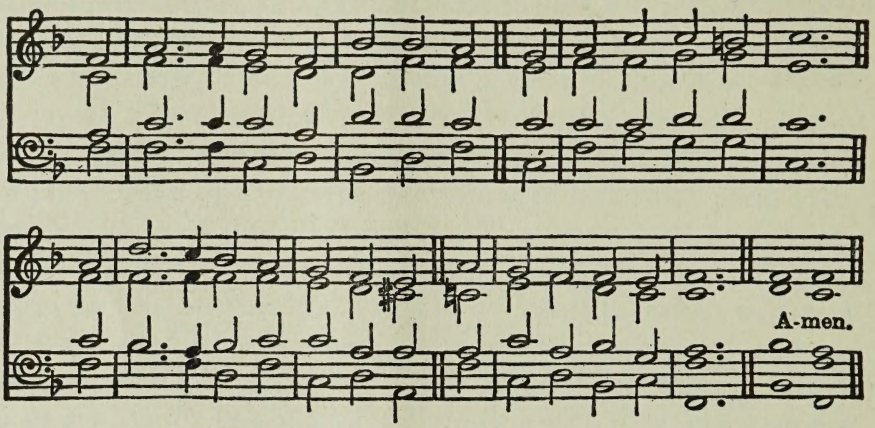
GENERAL CONFESSION *(by all in concert)*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father: we have erred, and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare Thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore Thou them that are penitent: according to Thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life; to the glory of Thy holy Name. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FATHER who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

HYMN.



TUNE—*Winchester Old.*

O FOR a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of Thy Name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

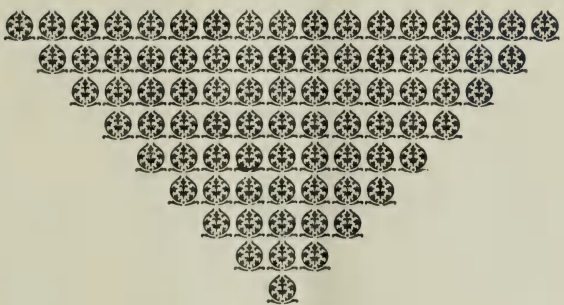
He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

Glory to God, and praise, and love
Be ever, ever given
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heaven. *Amen.*

Charles Wesley.



CONCERTED RECITAL OF PSALM 118. 1-4,19-26

(All standing):—

O GIVE THANKS unto the Lord; for He is good:
Because His mercy endureth for ever.

Let Israel now say,
That His mercy endureth for ever.

Let the house of Aaron now say,
That His mercy endureth for ever.

Let them that fear the Lord now say,
That His mercy endureth for ever.

Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them,
And I will praise the Lord:

This gate of the Lord, into which the righteous shall enter.

I will praise Thee: for Thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Save now, I beseech Thee, O Lord; O Lord, I beseech Thee, send now prosperity.

Blessed be he that cometh in the Name of the Lord; we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

(All stand for Worship as Te Deum is being sung)

1. We praise Thee, O God:
   We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
2. All the earth doth worship Thee:
   The Father everlasting.
3. To Thee all angels cry aloud:
   The heavens, and all the powers therein.
4. To Thee cherubim and seraphim:
   Continually do cry,
5. Holy, Holy, Holy:
   Lord God of Sabaoth;
6. Heaven and earth are full of the majesty:
   Of Thy glory.
7. The glorious company of the apostles:
   Praise Thee.
8. The goodly fellowship of the prophets:
   Praise Thee.
9. The noble army of martyrs:
   Praise Thee.
10. The holy Church throughout all the world:
    Doth acknowledge Thee;
11. The Father, of an infinite majesty:
    Thine honourable, true, and only Son;
12. Also the Holy Ghost:
    The Comforter.
13. Thou art the King of glory:
    O Christ.
14. Thou art the everlasting Son:
    Of the Father.

15. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man:
Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

16. When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death:
Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

17. Thou sittest at the right hand of God:
In the glory of the Father.

18. We believe that Thou shalt come:
To be our Judge.

19. We therefore pray Thee, help Thy servants:
Whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood.

20. Make them to be numbered with Thy saints:
In glory everlasting.

21. O Lord, save Thy people:
And bless Thine heritage.

22. Govern them:
And lift them up for ever.

23. Day by day:
We magnify Thee;

24. And we worship Thy Name:
Ever world without end.

25. Vouchsafe, O Lord:
To keep us this day without sin.

26. O Lord, have mercy upon us:
Have mercy upon us.

27. O Lord, let Thy mercy lighten upon us:
As our trust is in Thee.

28. O Lord, in Thee have I trusted:
Let me never be confounded.

LESSON FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

—St. John xvii. 1, 2, 6, 17-23.

THESE words spake Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee:

As Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him . . .

I have manifested Thy Name unto the men which Thou gavest me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them me; and they have kept Thy word.

Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth.

As Thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent me.

And the glory which Thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

I in them, and Thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved me.

PRAYERS (by Minister appointed, all reverently bowing down):—

THANKSGIVING AND SELF-CONSECRATION

HOLY FATHER, remembering Thy unspeakable love, unending benefits, and the grace given unto us that we should be called to Thy service: we bring Thee thanks, and present ourselves unto Thee as a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ: these bodies, that they may be consecrated by Thy power to be instruments of righteousness and temples of the Holy Ghost; these hearts, that Thy peace may reign in them, and the fire of Thy Divine love may fill them, to the consuming of all self-will, all anger and hatred, and all ungodly passions in us; finally this mortal life, with all the gifts and faculties which we have received from Thy fatherly goodness, that they, being sanctified by Thy grace, may serve alone Thy will and glory; that so we, by Thy Divine working in us, may be fashioned into the likeness of Thy dear Son: for His sake. *Amen.*

FOR THE UNITY AND PROSPERITY OF THE CHURCH

GOD, who hast exalted our Lord Jesus Christ to be Head over all things to the Church that all may be one in Him, and who hast put gladness into our hearts that we should see this day of the Son of Man: send peace and prosperity to all Christian people who are striving to draw nearer to Thee and to one another in the unity of the Spirit. Rejoicing in the gracious Providence that has led us hither to a wider fellowship of faith and service, we entreat Thee to lead us onward, from this time forth, to fulfil the sacred mission unto which Thou art calling us and the hopes of those departed hence who by faith foresaw this day. Confirm our solemn purposes; make us equal to our high trust; and govern our counsels and endeavours in all labours of love.

ENDUE, we implore Thee, O Lord, ministers of the Word and Sacraments, and all such as serve Thy Church in any charge or office, with the manifold gifts of Thy Spirit. Graciously raise up and prepare younger generations to carry forward the work of the Lord and to sustain the Church in days to come. Increase the liberality and holy living of Thy people.

AS we join hearts and hands in loyalty to our Divine Lord, we pray Thee to seal our union with Thy glorious and gladdening presence, so that, being rooted and grounded in love, we may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that we may be filled with all the fullness of God. *Amen.*

FOR ALL PEOPLES

GOD, the Hope of the ends of the earth, the Light and Desire of all nations, strengthen and preserve all missionaries of the Gospel, and so replenish them daily with Thy presence that they may, with joy and great power, set forth by word and life the grace of the Lord Jesus, and persuade many to turn to Thee. Prosper all ministries of medical help and healing, all agencies of education and social improvement. Scatter the forces of superstition, error and oppression.

O may the abundance of grace and truth which came unto all men in Jesus Christ be dispensed to all who suffer from a famine of Thy word. Let those who, worshipping at strange altars, are feeling after Thee find in Thy blessed Son the surety of a better hope. May all other sheep not of this fold, hearing the voice of the Good Shepherd, be brought from desert places into green pastures under His sure defence. Pour out Thy Spirit upon all peoples, and grant that all nations may bring their treasures of wisdom and strength and honour into the City of God, that Christ may be manifested forth in great power and glory, crowned with many crowns.

UPHOLD, we beseech Thee, companies of new-born souls in foreign fields against besetting dangers and opposition, and nourish every little flock and every pastor on the frontiers of Thy kingdom. Send forth, we pray Thee, more labourers into the harvest of the world. Quicken Thy Church and people with a due sense of stewardship as trustees of the Gospel for all mankind. Cast out enmity and strife between the peoples of the earth; and draw all men into obedience to Thy will: for the love of Christ. *Amen.*

FOR OUR COUNTRY

THOU KING ETERNAL, protect and by Thy counsel guide all those in seats of authority and government, more especially Thy servant our sovereign King George, Queen Mary, the Prince of Wales, the King's counsellors, the President of the United States, and all kings and rulers. Let the good hand of the Lord be upon our Empire, its several Governors, Parliaments and legislators, its judges, magistrates and civic leaders. Bless all schools, universities and seats of sacred learning, that there may never be wanting a supply of persons duly qualified to serve Thee in Church and State. Save the soul of the people, O Lord, and prosper all agencies of social reform and redemption. Strengthen all men and women going forth unto their work and to their labour until the evening; hallow every home; and cause equity, concord and concern for the common good to prevail among masters and toilers in all honourable industries and commerce.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who didst lead our fathers into this land and set their feet in a large place: give grace, we beseech Thee, to us their children, that we may approve ourselves a people mindful of Thy favour and glad to do Thy will. Fashion into one godly people the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Save us from lawlessness, arrogance and greed of gain. Give to all the spirit of service, love and mutual forbearance. In prosperity make us thankful; and in the day of trouble suffer not our trust in Thee to fail. So that, loving Thee above all things and our neighbour as ourselves, we may fulfil Thy gracious purpose in this land: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GENERAL INTERCESSION

GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men: that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for the good estate of the Catholic Church; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body or estate; that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ His sake. *Amen.*

II

THE HALLOWING OF CHURCH UNION

(All reverently standing)

Minister officiating:

TO the glory of God the Father, who has called us by His grace;

And of His Son Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us;

And of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us:

All: This Church of Christ is consecrate.

Minister:

For the worship of God in praise and prayer;

For the preaching of the everlasting Gospel;

For the administration of the Holy Sacraments:

All: This Church of Christ is consecrate.

Minister:

For the edifying of the body of Christ;
For the evangelizing of the world;
For the promotion of righteousness and goodwill:

All: This Church of Christ is consecrate.

Minister:

In the unity of the faith;
In the bonds of Christian brotherhood;
And in charity to all:

All: This Church of Christ is consecrate.

Minister:

Having part among the brethren in the inheritance of Apostles and Prophets,
Fathers and Teachers, Martyrs and Evangelists:

All: We give thanks unto the Father who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.

PRESBYTERIAN Moderator:

ACCORDING to the grace given unto our fathers, as witnesses to the Apostolic Gospel and standardbearers of the Church commissioned to make disciples of all nations, more especially in the manifestation of the Spirit in vigilance for Christ's Kirk and Covenant, in care for the spread of education and devotion to sacred learning, receive ye our inheritance among them that are sanctified.

All: We glory in the grace given unto us in this goodly heritage.

CONGREGATIONAL Union Chairman:

ACCORDING to the grace given unto our fathers, as witnesses to the Apostolic Gospel and standardbearers of the Church commissioned to make disciples of all nations, more especially in the manifestation of the Spirit in the liberty of prophesying, the love of spiritual freedom and the enforcement of civic justice, receive ye our inheritance among them that are sanctified.

All: We glory in the grace given unto us in this goodly heritage.

METHODIST General Superintendent:

ACCORDING to the grace given unto our fathers, as witnesses to the Apostolic Gospel and standardbearers of the Church commissioned to make disciples of all nations, more especially in the manifestation of the Spirit in evangelical zeal and human redemption, the testimony of spiritual experience, and the ministry of sacred song, receive ye our inheritance among them that are sanctified.

All: We glory in the grace given unto us in this goodly heritage.

Chairman of General Council of Local Union Churches:

ACCORDING to the grace given unto our fathers, as witnesses to the Apostolic Gospel and standardbearers of the Church commissioned to make disciples of all nations, more especially in the manifestation of the Spirit in the furtherance of community-life within the kingdom of God, and of the principle, in things essential unity and in things secondary liberty, receive ye our inheritance among them that are sanctified.

All: We glory in the grace given unto us in this goodly heritage.

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL

(all reverently standing):—

Minister:

ETERNAL GOD, the faithful Creator and Lover of all men, before whom stand the spirits of the living and the dead: we praise Thee for all those through whom Thou hast blessed us in our earthly welfare; for those who kept the faith and witnessed a good confession, upholding truth and resisting evil unto the uttermost; for all who laboured for liberty, justice and brotherhood; for those who in life and death have quickened our lives, and through whose sacrifice we live.

O Lord, grant that their devotion may bear good fruit in us and in the generations that come after us, that we leave not their work unfinished, but in the might of such faith and love may ever strive for a cleaner earth and a closer heaven.

Sanctify the ties that bind us to the Unseen, that we may hold the faithful dead in continued remembrance, that the blessing of their fidelity and fortitude may rest upon us, that with cleansed hearts, strengthened wills, and faith confirmed we may walk with humble steadfast steps the way that leadeth unto life.

Rejoicing in the Communion of Saints, grant that we with them may finally be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom, when, made like unto Christ, we shall behold Him with unclouded vision and undivided love, and by Christ, with all Thy Church holy and unspotted, shall be presented before the presence of Thy glory with exceeding joy.

Grant it, O heavenly Father, for His sake, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Minister:

NOW, therefore, in the sight of all the congregation of the Lord, and in the audience of our God, keep and search for the commandments of the Lord our God, that ye may possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you for ever. (I. Chron. xxviii. 8).

All:

WE now, the people of this Church of Christ, compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, mindful of the sacrifice of the fathers whose work is not made perfect without us, do dedicate ourselves, as heirs together of such precious gifts, unto the service of Almighty God in His kingdom among men.

ASCRIPTION (by all in concert):

NOW unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

III

DECLARATION OF CHURCH UNION

Here follow:

DECLARATION of the authority for Church Union in enactments of the governing bodies of the uniting Churches, and signing of the Basis of Union by the official heads of these Churches.

As each of these, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Methodist, attaches his signature, all delegates present of the same communion shall stand as adherents thereto.

DECLARATION that the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Congregational Churches of Canada, and the Methodist Church, along with the General Council of Local Union Churches, are now united and constituted as one Church to be designated and known as

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

PRAYER CONSTITUTING THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED CHURCH

(All reverently bowing down)

Minister officiating:

GOD ALMIGHTY, Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who loved the Church and gave Himself for it; Thou who on the day of Pentecost didst shed the Holy Spirit upon the Church waiting for the promise of the Father: we wait before Thee with one heart, that the same Lord Jesus may be made known in the midst of us, our only King and Head; and the same Holy Spirit, breathing upon us, may dispense among us His manifold gifts of grace and truth. Confirm, we beseech Thee, with the witness and unction of Thy Spirit the union of Thy people now consummated in this feast of fellowship and love. As Thou hast made us one in body, grant that our hearts may be melted and flow together into a living unity, that we together may join ourselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.

More especially, as we who are duly appointed delegates of the Churches thus made one, do solemnly with prayer and thanksgiving, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ the only Head of the Church, now constitute the General Council of the United Church of Canada, let Thy Holy Spirit seal this act and sanctify this chief court of Thy Church. O Blessed and Abiding Spirit, endue this Council and all its members and all the congregation of the Lord with heavenly wisdom; enlighten them with true knowledge of Thy Word; inspire them with pure zeal for Thy glory; rule their hearts in all things; and so order all their doings that unity and peace shall prevail, that truth and righteousness shall flow from them, and that by their endeavours

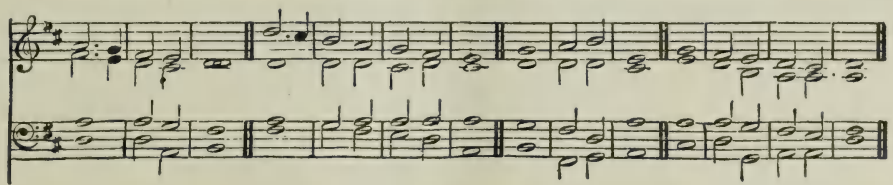
all Thy ministers and churches shall be refreshed and established, Thy Gospel everywhere purely preached and truly followed, Thy kingdom among men extended and strengthened, and the whole body of Thy people grow up into Him who is Head over all things to the Church, Jesus Christ. Hear the prayers and the praises we severally offer unto Thee in silent devotion. *(Here let there be a short pause for Silent Prayer)*... Bless all the high solemnities and the quickening promise of this beginning of days and years. And let great grace be upon all who love the Lord Jesus Christ: for His sake.

All Members of the General Council (saying in concert):—

Amen. Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

All present (standing and singing):—

GLORIA

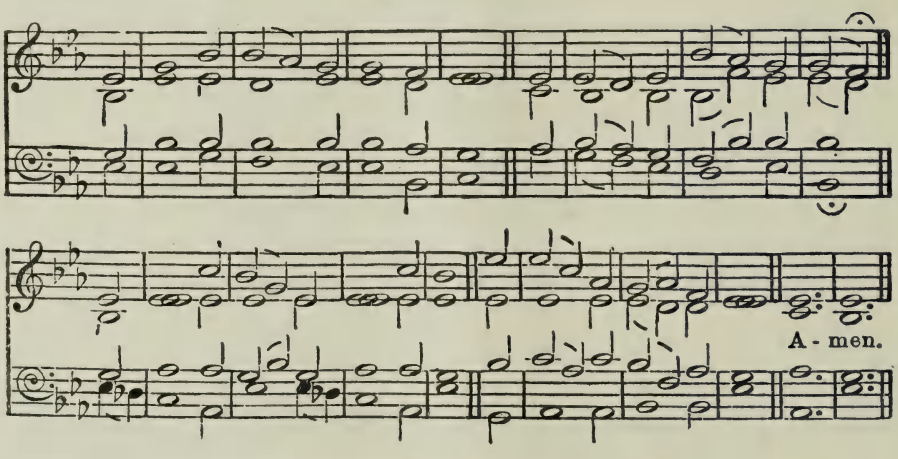


Glory be to the Father, . . and	to the	Son:	
And	to the	Ho - ly	Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and	ev - er	shall be:	
World . . . . . without	end. —	A- —	men.

RECEPTION of the American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, into the United Church of Canada.

APPOINTMENT of Minister to preside at the administration of the Holy Communion and at the adjourned meeting of the General Council.

HYMN.



TUNE—*Salzburg*

O GOD of Bethel, by whose hand
Thy people still are fed;
Who through this weary pilgrimage
Hast all our fathers led:

Our vows, our prayers, we now present
Before Thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
Of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life
  Our wandering footsteps guide;
Give us each day our daily bread,
  And raiment fit provide.

O spread Thy covering wings around,
  Till all our wanderings cease,
And at our Father's loved abode
  Our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from Thy gracious hand
  Our humble prayers implore;
And Thou shalt be our chosen God,
  And portion evermore. *Amen.*

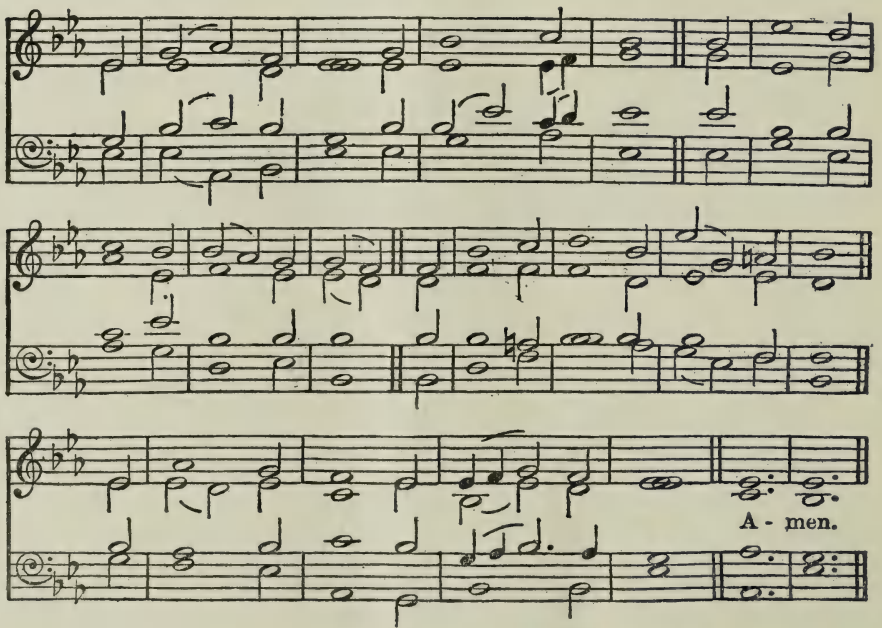
Philip Doddridge

IV

THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SERMON (*by Minister appointed*).

HYMN



TUNE—*Rockingham* (*Communion*)

WHEN I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all. *Amen.*

Isaac Watts.

The Minister presiding shall say:

BELOVED in the Lord,

As we celebrate the Holy Communion of the body and blood of Christ, we are gratefully to remember that our Lord instituted this Sacrament to be observed in His Church for the perpetual remembrance of the sacrifice of Himself in His death, to give a visible assurance and seal of all the benefits thereof unto true believers, to be a bond and pledge of their union with Him and with one another as members of His body which is the Church, and to engage them further in the fulfilment of all the duties they owe to Him.

HEAR the words of the institution of this Sacrament as recorded in Holy Scripture (I Cor. xi. 23-5)—

I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread:

And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

LET US PRAY

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Heavenly Father, who by the blood of Thy dear Son hast consecrated for us a new and living way into the holiest of all, and who admittest Thy people into such wonderful communion that they should dwell in Him and He in them: grant unto us, we beseech Thee, the assurance of Thy mercy, and sanctify us by Thy Holy Spirit, that, drawing near unto Thee with a pure heart and undefiled conscience, we may receive Thy gifts with thankfulness and offer unto Thee a sacrifice in righteousness.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name, evermore praising Thee, and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.

Holy and Merciful God, who didst give Thy dear Son for the life of the world: not as we ought but as we are able, we bless Thee for His incarnation, for His life on earth, for His precious sufferings and death on the Cross, for His resurrection from the dead, and for His glorious ascension to Thy right hand, where He maketh continual intercession for us.

And we most humbly beseech Thee, O Merciful Father, to vouchsafe unto us now Thy gracious presence, and so to sanctify with Thy Word and Spirit these Thine own gifts of bread and wine which we set before Thee, that the bread which we break may be to us the communion of the body of Christ and the cup of blessing which we bless the communion of the blood of Christ.

And we beseech Thee to receive this memorial of the blessed sacrifice of Thy Son which He has commanded us to make until He come; in union with whom we offer unto Thee our souls and our bodies; entreating Thee to grant unto us and unto all Thy people, through the mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the remission of our sins and all other benefits of His passion. *Amen.*

The Minister shall then take the bread and, breaking it in view of the people, say:—

Our Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread: and, when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me.

Here the Minister distributes the bread to the Elders, Stewards or Deacons, who distribute it among the communicants, all partaking in the order appointed.

Then the Minister, taking the cup in his hand, shall say:—

After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

So saying, the Minister shall give the cup to be received in like manner.

When all have partaken and the Elders, Stewards or Deacons have resumed their places, the Minister shall say:—

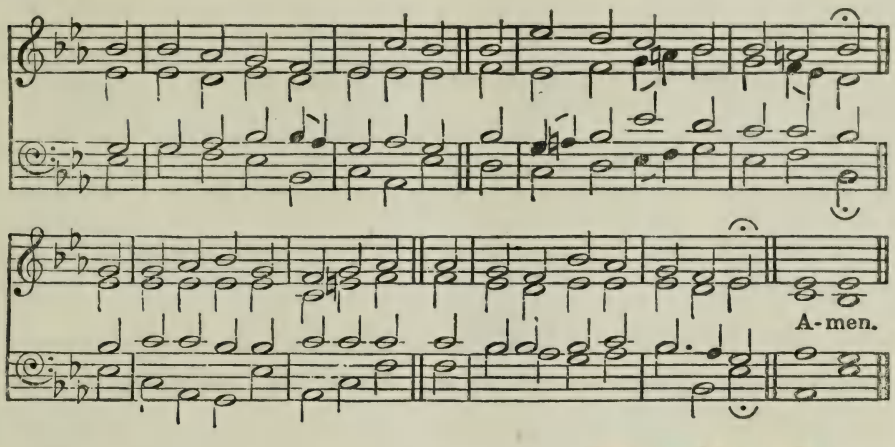
As often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.

PRAYER (*by Minister appointed*).

HYMN.



TUNE—*Melcombe.*

O SPIRIT of the living God,
In all Thy plenitude of grace,
Where'er the foot of man hath trod,
Descend on our apostate race.

Give tongues of fire and hearts of love,
To preach the reconciling word;
Give power and unction from above,
Whene'er the joyful sound is heard.

Be darkness, at Thy coming, light;
Confusion, order in Thy path;
Souls without strength inspire with might;
Bid mercy triumph over wrath.

O Spirit of the Lord, prepare
All the round earth her God to meet;
Breathe Thou abroad like morning air,
Till hearts of stone begin to beat.

Baptize the nations; far and nigh
The triumphs of the cross record;
The Name of Jesus glorify,
Till every kindred call Him Lord. *Amen.*

James Montgomery.

BENEDICTION.

NOW the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

ANNOTATIONS—SOURCES

I. PRAISE.

HYMNS representative of three uniting Churches:—Presbyterian, Psalm 100, "All People That on Earth Do Dwell," ascribed to WILLIAM KETHE, in Scottish Psalter, 1650 ("We Are His Folk"—not flock—in early version in keeping with original); Methodist, "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," *by* CHARLES WESLEY; Congregational, "O God of Bethel," *by* PHILIP DODDRIDGE (also in Scottish Paraphrases), and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," *by* ISAAC WATTS. From the Anglican communion, "The Church's One Foundation," *by* S. J. STONE; from the Moravian communion, "O Spirit of the Living God," *by* JAMES MONTGOMERY.

The tune to which the Processional Hymn is set, "Aurelia," is by SAMUEL SEBASTIAN WESLEY, grandson of Charles Wesley.

II. PRAYERS.

INVOCATION, compiled from the Liturgy of St. James (Ancient Church, *c.* fourth century). General Confession (dated 1552) and General Intercession, from "The Book of Common Prayer." Thanksgiving and Self-consecration, *by* ROTHE, abridged, in "The Book of Common Order." Intercessions "For the Unity and Prosperity of the Church," "For All Peoples," and "For our Country," specially composed for the occasion—the closing collect for the Dominion compiled from previous forms. "Commemoration of the Faithful," compiled (with additional phrases) from "The Book of Congregational Worship," as in "The Book of Common Order."

III. THE HALLOWING OF CHURCH UNION.

THE four initial formulae, adapted from "The Book of Common Order." The more specific formulae, indicating first what is common to all and then what is characteristic in the contribution of each communion to the joint inheritance, specially composed for the occasion. The Churches are arranged in the chronological order of their formation.

IV. THE ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION.

FROM the "Book of Common Order" (as, in each citation, prepared for the Presbyterian Church in Canada and having the "general approval" of its Assembly "for voluntary use": published by the Oxford University Press).

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